

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-05 MC-02 DODE-00 /065 W

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R 281515 ZOCT 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1589

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2157

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, WB

SUBJECT: SOVIET OFFICER'S INTEREST IN CBM OBSERVERS

1. FOLLOWING IN USMLM REPORT OF AN OCT 15  
CONVERSATION BETWEEN CHIEF OF SOVIET EXTERNAL RELATIONS

BRANCH OF GSFG (SERB) AND CHIEF OF BRITISH MILITARY  
LIAISON MISSION BRIXMIS) OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO  
ADDRESSEES (IT HAS BEEN REPORTED SEPARATELY TO US  
MILITARY ADDRESSEES):

QUOTE CHIEF SERB UNEXPECTEDLY ASKED WHETHER  
CHIEF BRIXMIS HAD HEARD OF THE  
HELSINKI AGREEMENT AND ITS REFERENCE TO OBSERVERS  
ATTENDING EACH SIDES' EXERCISES. CHIEF SAID THAT  
HE HAD OF COURSE READ ABOUT THIS IN THE NEWSPAPERS  
AND HAD HEARD RECENTLY ON THE RADIO THAT THE SOVIET  
UNION HAD NOT SENT OBSERVERS TO THE LATEST EXERCISES  
IN WEST GERMANY ALTHOUGH INVITED. SPEAKING PERSONALLY  
HE WAS SORRY ABOUT THIS IF IT WAS TRUE. CHIEF SERB  
THEN ASKED WHETHER THE CHIEF THOUGHT THAT THE  
MISSIONSHOULD PLAY ANY PART IN THIS. THE CHIEF  
SAID THAT OF COURSE HE COULD ONLY SPEAK PERSONALLY  
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AND QUITE UNOFFICIALLY. HE HAD NEVER CONSIDERED THE MATTER DEEPLY BUT CLEARLY OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE AT EXERCISES COULD PROPERLY BE ASSOCIATED WITH LIAISON. DID CHIEF SERB THINK THAT THE PRESENT MISSIONS WERE BIG ENOUGH FOR SUCH AN IMPORTANT TASK. CHIEF SERB SAID THAT THIS WAS AN INTERESTING QUESTION BUT CERTAINLY THE WHOLE MATTER WAS AN IMPORTANT ONE.

COMMENT: A KITE? UNQUOTE

2. CHIEF OF THREE WESTERN MILITARY LIAISON MISSIONS DISCUSSED ABOVE EXCHANGE AND AGREED THAT IN SPITE OF FACT THAT THE MISSIONS WOULD BE IDEALLY SUITED FOR SUCH A ROLE (AND COULD OBTAIN USEFUL INFORMATION), THE POLITICAL CONNOTATIONS/IMPLICATIONS HAVE PREDECEDED AND FAR OUTWEIGH ANY IMMEDIATE GAIN; FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE MISSIONS WERE TO BE USED AS MBFR VERIFICATION TEAMS: IF YOUR MISSIONS ARE USED AS OBSERVERS IN MILEXS, WHY CAN'T THEY BE USED IN MBFR VERIFICATIONS? USLML CHIEF CONSIDERED SERB'S FLOATING OF THIS QUESTION SIGNIFICANT AND WORTHY OF FURTHER DISCUSSION /CONSIDERATION WITH HIGHER HEADQUARTERS AND PERHAPS STATE DEPARTMENT AND/OR ACDA. HE BELIEVED THAT ANY FURTHER OVERTURES BY GSFG ON SAME SHOULD BE RESPONDED TO IN A COMBINED FASHION (I.E. , UK, FRANCE, US) AND ANY REPLIES/DISCUSSION ON OUR PART BE LIMITED TO A SIMILAR VEIN AS BRIXMIS' IN THE CASE. GEORGE

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 OCT 1975  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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